

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

December 6, 2005

Upon Recess of BMA

Mayor Baines called the meeting to order.

The Clerk called the roll. There were fourteen Aldermen present.

Present: Aldermen Roy, Gatsas, Guinta, Sysyn, Osborne, Porter, O'Neil, Lopez, Shea, DeVries, Garrity, Smith, Thibault and Forest

Messrs.: Robert MacKenzie, Randy Sherman

Mayor Baines addressed item 3 of the agenda:

3. Communication from Stephanie Lewry, Executive Director of Intown Manchester, requesting a special appropriation not to exceed \$1,000.00 for repair of electrical circuits for holiday lighting on Elm Street.

Alderman Osborne moved for discussion. Alderman Sysyn duly seconded the motion.

Alderman Gatsas asked isn't that available in their budget?

Mayor Baines asked is there anyone here from Intown?

Alderman Gatsas moved to table Item 3. Alderman Shea duly seconded the motion.

A roll call vote was taken. Aldermen Gatsas, Shea and Garrity voted yea. Alderman Guinta, Sysyn, Osborne, Porter, O'Neil, Lopez, DeVries, Smith, Thibault, Forest and Roy voted nay. The motion to table failed.

Mayor Baines asked did anyone actually make a motion to support this...I am going to ask for a motion to approve this so that we can get it for discussion.

Alderman Guinta moved to approve. Alderman Sysyn duly seconded the motion.

Alderman Shea stated everything seems to be directed to the downtown. If people want to string lights up over on Wilson Street would I get \$1,000 or if somebody wants to string them on Island Pond Road would they get \$1,000...I don't know we seem to always focus in on the downtown...they have a special fund that should be available and they shouldn't be coming back to us. Every \$1,000 that we spend is \$1,000 that the taxpayers have to spend and I think that they should use their own resources. I know many of you disagree but I tend to think that we're pretty generous to the downtown and that report that they gave tonight concerning where all of the places are for Adopt-a-Spot that's in the downtown area. So, as Alderman DeVries brought up and Alderman Lopez...how about the rest of the city. We should start thinking about the rest of the city and I would not support this. Thank you, your Honor.

Mayor Baines stated as you know I unveiled an initiative to do exactly what you're talking about and hopefully that will be followed through on.

Alderman Garrity stated the reason why I voted to table...it was a simple question, is it in the budget but there's nobody here to answer that question. How can we spend \$1,000 if we don't know if it's somebody's budget or not.

Alderman Guinta stated as I understand it repairs are not included in the Intown budget. These were unanticipated costs. As I understand it if don't appropriate the funds the repairs aren't going to happen and we can't string the lights.

Mayor Baines stated we can discuss it for a long time but people know how they're going to vote.

Alderman DeVries stated I have to comment as well that this is also helpful with economic development as the businesses are coming through deciding whether or not they wish to locate their new businesses here in Manchester and we have been hearing more interest recently...that creates more money that hopefully we'll be able to spend in the southend of Manchester because I agree we do have to pay attention to other areas...Christmas lights look beautiful.

Mayor Baines stated also there's money available in the Christmas Decoration account to handle this right, Mr. Sherman?

Mr. Randy Sherman, Deputy Finance Officer, replied yes that account was increased this year over prior years.

Alderman O'Neil stated following up on Alderman DeVries' comment I want to remind the Board that we have a great new restaurant across the street because there was a shamrock painted out in front of City Hall...that's a true story.

Alderman Gatsas stated I'd like to know how much salt that would buy for Frank Thomas.

Mayor Baines called for a vote on the motion to approve the requesting for \$1,000. The motion carried with Aldermen Gatsas and Shea duly recorded in opposition.

Mayor Baines addressed item 4 of the agenda:

4. Resolutions:

“Amending the FY2003 Community Improvement Program, authorizing and appropriating funds in the amount of Seven Thousand Two Hundred Two Dollars and Forty Cents (\$7,202.40) for the FY2003 CIP 215903 Lead Hazard Control Grant Program.”

“Amending the FY2006 Community Improvement Program, authorizing and appropriating funds in the amount of One Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$150,000) for the FY2006 CIP 214206 Manchester Health Care Access Review Program.”

“Amending the FY2006 Community Improvement Program, authorizing and appropriating funds in the amount of Nine Thousand Seven Hundred Nine Dollars and Twenty Cents (\$9,709.20) for FY2006 CIP 410706 NHDWI Patrol Program.”

“Amending the FY2006 Community Improvement Program, authorizing and appropriating funds in the amount of Eight Thousand Dollars (\$8,000) for FY2006 CIP 411806 Project Safe Neighborhoods Program.”

“Amending the FY2006 Community Improvement Program, authorizing and appropriating funds in the amount of Fifteen Thousand Dollars (\$15,000) for the FY2006 CIP 612606 Citywide Marketing Plan Program.”

“Amending the FY2004, 2005, and 2006 Community Improvement Programs, transferring, authorizing and appropriating funds in the amount of Thirty Three Thousand Dollars (\$33,000) for FY2006 CIP 612706 Displaced Employee Homeless Prevention Program.”

“Amending the FY2006 Community Improvement Program, authorizing and appropriating funds in the amount of Forty Three Thousand Eight Hundred Sixty Two Dollars (\$43,862.00) for FY2006 CIP 713106 Trolley Crossing PS Force Main Project.”

“Authorizing the Finance Officer to effect a transfer of Seventy Five Thousand Dollars (\$75,000.00) from Contingency to Environmental Protection Division – Chemicals.”

On motion of Alderman O’Neil, duly seconded by Alderman Sysyn, it was voted to dispense with the reading of the resolutions by titles only.

Alderman Gatsas stated I’m just looking for some sort of explanation why we’re dipping into contingency to take care of Environmental Protection when my understanding is that there’s an awful lot of money over there.

Mr. Sherman asked, Mayor, may I address that.

Mayor Baines replied yes.

Mr. Sherman stated that contingency is within Environmental Protection’s budget, that is not the General Fund. So, that is an amount is budgeted within their own resolution. So, those are their own funds.

Alderman Gatsas stated I didn’t know we had any line item authority on that budget.

Mr. Sherman stated when you adopt that budget it’s broken up into a number of categories...there’s the salary category, a benefits category, I believe there’s operating expenses, capital, there’s an line item for auditing and there’s a contingency line item. So, if they want to use those contingency funds they need to come back to this Board.

Alderman Gatsas stated we’ve never had a discussion about that budget.

Mayor Baines stated you can if you want.

Alderman Guinta asked can those additional contingency funds, if they're not used, be used for other needs in the city and the general fund budget?

Mayor Baines replied no it has to stay within that fund.

Alderman Guinta asked is there any authority for them to return any unused funds to the general fund?

Mr. Sherman replied those funds are generated from their user fees.

Alderman DeVries stated I'm actually needing some clarification from the Director of Planning. Mr. MacKenzie, the Affordable Housing Trust Funds that are being utilized in the CCT Displacement Program if you could just speak to that...I'm not opposed, I just want to know what you're transferring from Affordable Housing into another form of housing assistance.

Mr. Robert MacKenzie, Director of Planning, stated the Affordable Housing Trust Fund was set up to assist both affordable housing and situations like this. The Board did tap that fund to help with the JacPac employees when they needed housing assistance. So, it is a trust fund operated under the city and can be used for this purpose.

Alderman Gatsas asked what number is that, your Honor?

Alderman DeVries replied that was the item brought in by Alderman Lopez...the CCT Displacement.

Alderman Roy asked is it at this time we would make a friendly motion that if funds are made available from other sources...

Deputy City Clerk Johnson stated we're going to attach that to the budget authorization when you get to that.

Alderman O'Neil moved that the resolutions ought to pass and be enrolled. Alderman Sysyn duly seconded the motion. The motion carried with Alderman Gatsas duly recorded in opposition to the resolution relative to the Health Care Access Review Program.

Mayor Baines addressed item 5 of the agenda:

5. CIP Budget Authorizations:

215903	Lead Hazard Control Program – Revision #1
710404	Bus Stop Signs – Revision #1-Closeout
510605	Pavillion Installation – Revision #1-Closeout
510705	Summer Concerts & Event Support – Revision #1-Closeout
810005	Computer Network – Revision #1-Closeout
810105	Replace Transit Radio System – Revision #1-Closeout
214206	Manchester Health Care Access Review Program
410706	NH DWI Patrol Program – Revision #3
411806	Project Safe Neighborhoods
612606	Citywide Marketing Plan Program
612706	Displaced Employee Homeless Prevention Program
711806	CSO Crescent Road Basin
711906	CSO Poor/Schiller Street Area
713106	Trolley Crossing PS Force Main

Deputy City Clerk Johnson stated we have additions to that listing: 710404, 510605, 510705, 810005, 810105, 612606 and 612706. Displaced Employee Homeless Prevention Program authorization to reflect the restriction of any federal funds that may become available would be applied to this project.

Alderman DeVries moved to approve the CIP budget authorizations subject to final adoption of related resolutions. Alderman Forest duly seconded the motion. There being none opposed, the motion carried.

TABLED ITEM

On motion of Alderman Lopez, duly seconded by Alderman Forest, it was voted to remove the following item from the table for discussion.

Alderman Lopez asked would it be permissible to remove Item 32 from the Board agenda in conjunction with this item?

Deputy City Clerk Johnson replied no because they are two different meetings. You can refer this back out to the Board to be taken up with Item 32.

6. Resolution:

“Authorizing the Finance Officer to effect a transfer of One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00) from Contingency to Highway – Miscellaneous.”

(Tabled October 18, 2005 pending further information.)

Alderman Lopez moved to remove Item 6 from the Committee on Finance agenda and refer to Item 32 of the Board agenda. Alderman Forest duly seconded the motion. There being none opposed, the motion carried.

There being no further business to come before the committee, on motion of Alderman Roy, duly seconded by Alderman Osborne, it was voted to adjourn.

A True Record. Attest.

Clerk of Committee